(c) All the remaining villages are proposed to be provided with telecom facility progressively by March 2002 with the joint efforts of Private Basic Service Operators(PBSOs).

Supply of Fibre Optic Board Based Network

187. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that the Railways, Power Grid and Organisations like Enron and Reliance also plan to supply fibre optic board based network; and

if-so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The National Telecom Policy '99 envisages the usage of existing backbone network of public and private power transmission companeis/Railways/GAIL/ONGC for national long distance communications. As regards the plan to supply fibre optic board based network by organisations like Enron, Reliance, it is stated that no such reference has been received in the department for the purpose.

Printing of Postal Stamps

†188. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

the types of various postal stamps printed during the last three years;

the number of stamps printed in the security press of Government out of above;

whether some of the stamps were printed from somewhere else if so, the names thereof;

the total cost incurred on the printing of postal stamps in Government and private presses; and

whether the security press in Pune is lying closed alongwith the reasons for delay in the repairing work of the same?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.